

**Amendments to the claims:**

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (currently amended): A microprocessor comprising:

an identifier that identifies the microprocessor;

embedded instructions that comprise microcode for comparing a hash value, derived from the identifier and a key, to an expected hash value; and

~~The microprocessor of claim 1 further comprising~~ embedded instructions that comprise microcode for producing a hash value that is a function of the identifier and a key.

Claim 3 (original): The microprocessor of claim 2 wherein the identifier comprises a processor number.

Claims 4 -24 (canceled)